Announcements and Church News Our Stek AGUNUMBE

Eva Jane Methvin- in Mease Countryside Hospital; Lori Williams for covid; Molly Burgess for recent tests: Linda Hadsock-recent test: Sandy Caldwell- pain from bursitis and knee surgery; Debbie Adams-recent test; Vicky Lube - cancer trmt; Alison Harris for cancer trmt; Teresa Broyles for cancer trmt; Ron Sommerville, Jr needs prayers; Joyce Stanley, Kim Taylor, Fran Barclay, & Nancy VanWinkle for health issues.

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR FAMILY/FRIENDS;

The Stewart's neighbor Rich Folger for health issues; The Kozola's son Tim needs prayers; Emily George's- friend Renee/loss of evesight; Carol Untied's-dad, Tony for health issues. Sam York-is home in Missouri; Kadie Richmond's-dads wife, Shirley/recent hip surgey; David Sain's-wife Phyllis; Yllka Bejo'smother; The Bernhardt's-relative Rustin Osburn; Dianne Stewart's-brother, Bobby Goodfield; Van Stewart's-aunt, Linda Parsons/ health issues; The Stingles-niece's baby; Paula Davis'-niece/ lupus; Carol Mitchell'smother, Mary; Darrell Broking-health issues; Samantha Jones son. Joshua also friend Penelope health issues; Ashlev Falcao- recovering from recent surgery on her leg.

PRAYERS FOR CANCER:

Linda Hadsock's niece, June McCray; Carol Untied's stepmother Emily; Debbie Methvin'sco-workers father Vasilos and Michele Fuguero; Deb Adams friends son, Jason; Van Stewart's sister Tracey and cousin Paula; Ronnie Sommerville's dad, Ron; Mattie Simmons friend William; Sandy Caldwell's brother-inlaw Larry; Kay Jessup's friend, Lou Fiores.

INMATES: Antwaun Thompson, Willie Newton & Tom George.

OUR SERVICE MEN: Sam Wagner and cousin Mark Wagner (Navy) Austin Reves (Marine) *Matthew Holleran* (Army)

OUR SHUT-IN AT HOME: Winston Sandlin

NEXT LADIES BIBLE CLASS-Friday, May 6th at 1:00pm in the small building. See Vicki Herman for any questions.

YOUTH RETREAT—At Weeki Wachee Christian Camp from April 29th to May 1st hosted by the Orange Street Church of Christ. For registration information please pick up a flyer in the foyer.

SYMPATHY- Our deepest sympathy is extended to Les Vasterling and family for the loss of his father on Friday, April 8th. Remember the Vasterling family in your prayers as they mourn the loss of a dear loved one.

PLACED MEMBERSHIP-We welcome Grace Vogt to our family here at Central. Please add her information to your directory: 804 Edenville Ave., Clearwater, FL 33764-5032 Phone# (810) 908-4997.

BAPTIZED—Clifton Revnolds put on the Lord in baptism last Sunday, April 10th. Please welcome our new brother in Christ to our family at Central. For your directory: 2833 Roosevelt Blvd, Clearwater, FL 33760-1924 Phone: 813-461-0280.

REMINDER—Weekly sermons are available on CD, our website and livestream on Facebook and YouTube Sundays at 10:30 & 5:00pm and Wednesdays at 7:00pm. If you need the Bulletin, Christian Service List, Calendar or Directory call the office at (727) 446-4808.

Those Serving Today

Announcements—James George Song Leaders—Matt Prvor/Joe Bonelli Opening Prayer—Mark Bernhardt/Matt Pryor Lord's Table—Van Stewart Closing Prayer—John Benson/Bob Hadsock

BirthdaysThis Week

Ranny Reeves—April 23rd AnniversariesThis Week Charles and Teresa Brovles—April 21st

CENTRAL CHURCH OF CHRIST

April 17, 2022 centralcofchrist@gmail.com www.centralcofchrist.com



fairhavenchildrenshome.com

www.christiancourier.com

cocindia.net

Arnold Town Road Church of Christ—Darrell Broking Chalmette Church of Christ—Mark Lance

> **Elders**: Joe Bonelli **Charles Broyles** James George

Deacons: Max Herman Van Stewart

Preacher: Charles Broyles Cell #: 423-240-9075 Office: 727-446-4808



Office: (727) 446-4808

1454 Belleair Rd. Clearwater, FL. 33756-2357

Sunday Bible Study—9:30AM Charles Broyles Major Prophets: Ezekiel Sunday Worship—10:30AM

> Charles Broyles The Last Great Day John 12:48

Sunday Worship—5:00 PM Charles Broyles The Power Of One On One **Bible Study** Acts 8:35-38

Ladies Bible Study—Friday May 6th at 1:00pm

Wed. Bible Study—7:00PM Charles Broyles The Bible—How We Got It

All of our services are available on Facebook Live and YouTube Live! YouTube

From the Preacher's Pen

IT IS SPRING AGAIN

Frank Chesser

It is Spring again. Naked branches clothe themselves with splendorous color. Brooks sparkle with new life as they course their way through woods and meadows of green. Birds sing, nest, and fly incessantly in search of

food for hungry mouths. Butterflies wing their way through sunlit skies. Fish spawn, flowers bloom and glow and newly attired boughs sway gently in balmy breezes as the symphony of nature sings its songs of joy.

It is Spring again. Members of the kingdom once saved by grace and redeemed by blood have rejoined the ways of the world. **Nature robes itself, and man disrobes.** Skimpy apparel becomes commonplace. Snakes shed their skin, and men shed their clothes. Professed Christians cease walking by faith.

In shame, Adam and Eve hid among the trees of Eden. Void of shame, many in spiritual Israel put their partially clad form on public display. Emerging from the womb of winter, nature arrays itself in resplendent color. Rising from the sphere of worldliness, the image of God wraps itself in the cloak of lasciviousness. Purity gives way to lust.

Teaching on modesty in dress is seldom done and when done, is largely ignored. Such efforts are viewed as archaic and out-of-touch with the times. The extreme permissiveness of modern society has blinded the minds of many in the church with regard to the very essence of spirituality. In matters of dress, there is often no distinction to be seen between members of the church and members of the world. Such people are viewed by those in the world as no different from themselves, and thus, have nullified their spiritual magnetism in drawing men to Christ.

There is no justification for joining Spring's parade of flesh. Participation cancels the light of one's influence and aligns him with the world. It is wholly inconsistent with the principle of holiness "without which no man shall see the Lord" (Heb. 12:14). It is lascivious in its very nature, and "they who practise such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God" (Gal. 5:21). Copied

THE PROGRESSIVE NATURE OF SIN Marvin Weir

The Bible has much to say regarding the dangers of sin. James warns, "Let no man say when he is tempted, I am tempted of God: for God cannot be tempted with evil, neither tempteth he any man: But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death" (Jam. 1:13-15). The subject of sin must be carefully studied because the consequences of impenitent sins are eternally disastrous. There are numerous examples given in the Scriptures to substantiate the fact that sin is progressive.

First, Genesis 3 reveals the progressive nature of Eve's sin. She allowed herself to doubt

the Word of God, and then the slide downward became easier. Such is always the case! Next Eve **saw** the forbidden fruit, then **took**, ate, and **gave** it to her husband.

Second, we see the same steps occurring in the heart of Achan. The people were forbidden to take "devoted things," or the spoils of war. Achan confessed his sin by saying he **saw**, **coveted**, **took**, and **hid** the treasures in the earth beneath his tent (Jos. 7:21).

Third, the Psalmist warns that a downward spiral begins by **walking** in the counsel of the wicked, **standing** in the way of sinners, and finally **sitting** in the seat of the scoffers (Psa. 1:1).

For the child of God, the last state (falling from grace, or becoming entangled again in sin) is worse than the first (an alien sinner)! It is better not to have known truth than to know truth and run from it (2 Pet. 2:20-22).

In recent years we have seen the progressive nature of sin practiced in the Lord's church by those of liberal and modernistic persuasion. Peter's words will echo in all apostates ears in that day!

EASTER

Curtis L. E. Graves

Easter is a mixture of three particular events: the Hebrew Passover, the resurrection of Christ, and a pagan festival of Spring. It was not until the 4th to 7th century that the rule was finally set and adopted as to when it should be observed. This tells me then that Easter, as a special holy day to be observed, is not authorized by Christ. It is a manmade observance that came about three to six hundred years after Christ's death. The observance of Easter Sunday as a special holy day cannot be found in the Bible. The use of Easter in Acts 12:4 in the King James Version is a mistranslation of the Greek word pascha which should be translated "passover." W. E. Vine says in his lexicon that: "The term Easter is not of Christian origin."

New Testament Christians commemorate the death of Christ each (every) Lord's day, (Sunday, first day of the week) in the partaking of the Lord's supper (Acts 20:7; 1 Cor. 11:23-26). Colossians 3:17 tells us: "And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him." That is, do all by the authority of Jesus. Since there is no authority to celebrate Easter in a religious way (Col. 2:16), then it cannot be done "by faith." Romans 14:23 says, "for whatsoever is not of faith is sin." Faith comes by hearing God's Word (Rom. 10:17), yet God's Word does not instruct us to observe this day. Therefore, it cannot be done in faith. Let us go back to the Bible and not what men would have us do!

If your mind should go blank, don't forget to turn off the sound.

Too many parents are not on "spanking" terms with their children.

